THE DISAPPEARANCE of NAGATO YUKI-CHAN

ART **PUYO** STORY **NAGARU TANIGAWA** CHARACTERS: **NOIZI ITO**

...AND STUFF LIKE THAT.

"IF YOU DON'T STUDY MORE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS SASAKI!"

MY MOM'S ALWAYS SAYING...

SPEAKING SOLELY OUT OF SELF-INTEREST, YOU'RE A GREAT LISTENER, SO IT'D BE AWFULLY CONVENIENT FOR ME IF YOU STUCK AROUND.

AND WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO FOLLOW THE SAME PATH AS YOU ANYWAY?

I'M ALREADY STUDYING AT A CRAM SCHOOL I DON'T EVEN WANT TO GO TO, AREN'T I?

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. I CAN'T DO THAT.

HEH-HEH. IT'S NOT HARD, KYON. YOU JUST HAVE TO STAY AT YOUR DESK. EVEN WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT CRAM SCHOOL, EVEN AFTER YOU GET HOME.

WHOOSH

BYE, KYON.

HEH-HEH. WHOOPS, DON'T WANT TO MISS THE BUS.

HEY, NOW.

Epilogue 40>>
Self-Introduction

北高祭

SEE YOU AT SCHOOL TOMOR-ROW.

THE DISAPPEARANCE of NAGATO YUKI-CHAN

ART **PUYO** STORY **NAGARU TANIGAWA** CHARACTERS: **NOIZI ITO**

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WHAT KIND OF A GREETING IS "WHAT THE...?"

IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE, HASN'T IT?

WHAT THE...? SO YOU'RE ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, SASAKI?

WELL, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL EITHER.

YEAH, IT'S SOMETHING OF A RELIEF.

YOU THINK?

HEH-HEH, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.

YEAH, I GUESS IT HAS.

CLATTER

STARRRE

.....

YEAH, WE'RE...

...GOOD FRIENDS.

HMM? I FEEL LIKE I KNOW THE ANSWER ALREADY, BUT DO YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?

I SAY "GOOD FRIENDS," BUT...

?

OH, WELL... OKAY. HOW 'BOUT THAT. WOW.

HUH?

YEAH, WELL, THAT'S GOES FOR ME TOO, SO...

I HAVEN'T HEARD A PEEP FROM THIS HEART-LESS JERK SINCE WE GRADUATED.

...THAT WAS ONLY IN OUR LAST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THOUGH I FEEL LIKE YOUR REASON FOR BEING OUT OF TOUCH AND MINE MIGHT BE RATHER DIFFERENT.

HEH, RIGHT YOU ARE. I'VE GOT NO GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT.

WELL, IT'S JUST...

...HOW WOULD YOU HAVE ANY TIME FOR THE LIKES OF ME?

...WITH A GIRLFRIEND AS BEAUTIFUL AS HER...

HUUUUUH!?

HUH?

C'MON, SASAKI, DON'T JUMP TO WEIRD CONCLU-SIONS.

HA-HA, SORRY. I MEANT IT LITERALLY, AS IN A GIRL WHO'S YOUR FRIEND, BUT...

BLUSH

WH-WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...!!?

GOOD-NESS ME, "BEAUTI-FUL"? YOU MUSTN'T SAY SUCH THINGS!

...WITH THAT REACTION, MAYBE SHE REALLY DOES...

KYAAA!

THE ENERGY OF THE PEOPLE STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER.

THE ENERGY OF SOMEONE SINCERELY OVER-JOYED TO BE CALLED "BEAUTI-FUL."

IT'S SO EMBAR-RASSING! OH MY!

OH, AND NOW YOU'RE SUDDENLY DEMURE AND LADY-LIKE!?

Don't worry, Kyon-kun takes very good care of me.

SMILE

AH—

I MEAN, IT'S TRUE THAT WHEN I GO SHOPPING IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT THE VENDORS WILL SAY THINGS LIKE, "WON'T THE BEAUTIFUL LADY BUY MY GOODS, PLEASE?" BUT STILL...

WHAT'S WITH THAT PRETEN-TIOUS TONE?

ALAS, KYON-KUN AND I LIVE IN DIFFERENT WORLDS...

AW, C'MON. I WAS JUST PLAYING ALONG A LITTLE.

ぼん DOOM

CUT IT OUT, ALREADY.

WHERE'D THAT ENERGY GO, HUH?

WHAT? ME AND KYON? NO WAY. NEVER.

AH HA HA.

HMM? SHE'S THE ONE WHO GOT TO KNOW YOU FIRST, ISN'T SHE? SHE'S GOT PRIORITY.

I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT.

WH-WHAT'S NAGATO GOT TO DO WITH IT?

FLINCH ビクッ

IT WOULDN'T BE KIND TO NAGATO-SAN, AFTER ALL.

HEE-HEE. I WAS JUST KIDDING. BUT ME AND KYON? NO.

...AND SHE'S THE CLUB PRESIDENT.

WELL, I'M IN THE LITERATURE CLUB...

ちら。
GLANCE

OHH? SO WHO'S THIS NAGATO?

HUH? WELL...

HARD TO IMAGINE YOU GOING ON TO JOIN A LITERATURE CLUB. HOW'D THAT HAPPEN?

NO, SAME YEAR AS ME. THERE AREN'T MANY MEMBERS, SO...

IS SHE A YEAR AHEAD OF YOU?

I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE ABOUT THAT.

MOST PEOPLE DON'T JUST DO THINGS LIKE THAT OUT OF THE KINDNESS OF THEIR HEARTS.

IT WASN'T THAT BIG A DEAL, BUT YEAH.

AH, SO YOU HELPED SAVE THE CLUB FROM THE THREAT OF DISSOLU-TION.

...HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.

GRIN

YOU REALLY...

ONLY YOU WOULD GO ALONG WITH SOMEONE ELSE WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT WHETHER IT DID YOU ANY GOOD OR NOT.

JUST LIKE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

I CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE COMPLIMENTING ME OR NOT.

OH, WELL, AS IT HAPPENS...

ANY FRIEND OF YOURS IS A FRIEND OF MINE.

BUT NOW I'D LIKE TO MEET THIS NAGATO-SAN.

KNOCK

KNOCK

YES, COME IN!

UH, SORRY I'M LATE...

IS THE MEETING GOING WELL?

I INVITED NAGATO-SAN TOO, OF COURSE. THE LITERATURE CLUB'S NOT BUSY WITH ANYTHING ELSE, AFTER ALL.

RATTLE

RATTLE

CLATTER

SO YOU'RE NAGATO-SAN?

HA HA HA.

YOU GOT ROPED INTO THIS TOO, EH, NAGATO?

JUST FINE. WE'RE STILL SAYING OUR HELLOS.

I'M SASAKI. I WAS JUST HEARING ABOUT YOU.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE LOOKING AFTER KYON AT NORTH HIGH.

ふぅ

HUH? UH, YES, I'M NAGATO. AND I THINK I MIGHT BE THE ONE BEING LOOKED AFTER, BUT...

NICE TO MEET YOU.

OH, YES!

TUP

TUP

TUP

NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, NAGATO-SAN, WE CAN GET DOWN TO BUSINESS...

CLAP

...NOW, THEN.

LET'S SEE, WHAT WAS HE LIKE...?

HEH HEH!

DON'T GO ALONG WITH THEM, SASAKI!

LIKE GETTING THE DIRT ON WHAT KYON-KUN WAS LIKE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!

PEEK!

HEY!

UGH, NOT HARU-HI!

NOT EVERYONE. TWO PEOPLE FROM KOUYOUEN ARE LATE. YOU KNOW WHO.

EVERY-ONE'S HERE, SO LET'S TALK ABOUT THE SCHOOL FESTI-VAL!

I KINDA WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT TOO...

ET TU, NAGA-TO!?

OHH.

NAGATO-SAN, APPARENTLY SASAKI-SAN WAS IN THE SAME CLASS AS KYON-KUN IN THEIR LAST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.

MIDDLE-SCHOOL NAGATO (ARTIST'S RENDITION)

MIDDLE-SCHOOL ASAKURA (ARTIST'S RENDITION)

Epilogue 41>> Programming Meeting

Programming Meeting

TIME TO DECIDE ON THE LITERATURE CLUB'S PRESENTATION!

ALL RIGHT, THEN!

SCHOOL FESTIVAL PRESENTATION

.....

SILENCE

WELL, I MEAN..... RIGHT, NAGATO?

YEAH.

HEY, WHAT'S WITH THE BLANK STARES?

TSK!

TSK!

GEEZ... YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?

YOU GUYS AGREE ON THE WEIRDEST THINGS.

WE'RE DOING A PRESENTA-TION?

IT IS NOW, AS A SECOND-YEAR!

HIGH SCHOOL LIFE IS BRIEF! NEXT YEAR YOU'LL BE SENIORS, FRANTIC AND BUSY WITH COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS!

THE BEST CHANCE TO ENJOY THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL TO ITS FULLEST IS NEITHER AS A FIRST-YEAR, NOR AS AN EXAM-RIDDEN THIRD-YEAR!

FLASH

LISTEN UP! I'M JUST GETTING TO THE GOOD PART HERE!

DONG

ぼぉっ

BECAUSE IT'S MORE FUN TO BE ABLE TO WALK AROUND AND SEE STUFF.

SO WHY IS IT THAT YOU DUNCES SEEM TO HAVE NO DESIRE TO PRESENT ANYTHING AT ALL!?

LOOK, YOU TWO.

WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE IT WAS DECIDED THAT KOUYOUEN ACADAMY WOULD PUT ON A JOINT FESTIVAL WITH THIS SCHOOL?

THEIR VOICES GROW LOUDER EVERY YEAR, AND FINALLY THIS YEAR KOUYOUEN ACADEMY WAS FACED WITH A DECISION...

YES! TO HOLD THE FESTIVAL, OR NOT TO HOLD!

Survey:
The Future of the Kouyouen Festival

THERE ARE SOME AMONG THE STUDENTS' GUARDIANS WHO PLACE SO MUCH WEIGHT ON STUDY THAT THEY WOULD PROPOSE THAT EVEN THE FESTIVAL BE CANCELED.

AS I'M SURE YOU'RE AWARE, KOUYOUEN ACADEMY IS A PREP SCHOOL.

...IT WAS THEN THAT KOUYOUEN ACADEMY MADE A WISE DECISION!

AS THE ENTHUSIASM NECESSARY TO PUT ON A GOOD FESTIVAL BEGAN TO WANE...

BUT EVEN THEN, THE OPINIONS VARIED WIDELY ON HOW THAT MIGHT BE ACHIEVED.

IT WAS DIFFICULT DECISION. DESPITE ATTENDING A PREP SCHOOL, MANY STUDENTS STILL WANT TO ENJOY THE FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE.

THIS IS AN ACT OF DESPERATION THAT CANNOT BE REPEATED.

AND YET.

AND THE FESTIVAL HAS BECOME POSSIBLE ONCE AGAIN!

THIS WOULD SUPPLEMENT OUR OWN LACKING PASSION AND VIGOR!

YES! TO HOLD A JOINT FESTIVAL WITH THE RELATIVELY NEARBY NORTH HIGH!

EVEN IF WE WANTED TO, WE COULDN'T.

SO I DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANY REGRETS.

IN OTHER WORDS...

...WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DO THIS NEXT YEAR...

I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH...

SUZU-MIYA-SAN...

HARUHI

LET'S DO IT, HARUHI! NO REGRETS!

I'LL HELP TOO!

HEH, GUESS WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

...BUT WILL YOU TWO HELP ME WITH THIS? PLEASE?

.....

KYON! YUKI! I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU GUYS!

HOORAY!

I'M PRETTY SURE THIRD-YEARS AREN'T ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE ANYWAY, SINCE THEY'RE STUDYING FOR EXAMS...

CLASSIC MISDIRECTION FROM SUZUMIYA-SAN. I'M IMPRESSED.

WHO, ME?

WHAT'D YOU DO LAST YEAR, KYON?

SO ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO...

TING

WHAT? WHAT'S THAT EVEN GOOD FOR?

FAVORITE CELEBRITY

1

2

3

MY CLASS PRESENTED THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY WE DID.

BOING

...A FORTUNE-TELLING BOOTH...

THAT'S FUNNY, BUT IT'S A LITTLE ON THE SAFE SIDE.

UM... I DID...

WHAT ABOUT YOU, YUKI?

BLUSH
ぽ°

BUT NOW I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN YOUR FORTUNE-TELLING!

OH, THAT'S RIGHT, YOU DID.

IT'S KINDA HARD FOR A GUY TO GET HIS FORTUNE TOLD, SO I DIDN'T END UP GOING.

HEH-HEH, WELL...

ME?

UM, S-SO WHAT DID YOU DO, SUZUMIYA-SAN?

ざぱ—ん

SPLAAASH

SUZUMIYA

I MADE AN INDE-PENDENT FEATURE FILM!

INDEED.

RIGHT, KOIZUMI-KUN?

ISN'T IT? IT WAS REALLY TOUGH TOO.

WHOA... THAT'S IMPRES-SIVE.

IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE SPECTACLE!

IT WAS ABOUT A MYSTERIOUS TRANSFER STUDENT NAMED IZUMI KOIZUMI WHOSE TRUE PSYCHIC POWERS AWAKEN...

...AND HE BATTLES GIANT MONSTERS!

I KNOW, RIGHT?

IT WAS QUITE A GHASTLY SIGHT.

SUZUMIYA-SAN PLAYED THE MONSTER HERSELF.

SHHH! YOU CAN LEAVE THAT PART OUT!

...AND IT WOUND UP BEING SHELVED, THOUGH.

AFTER WE FINISHED FILMING, SUZUMIYA-SAN GOT SICK OF EDITING IT...

I-IT WAS FINISHED IN MY MIND, SO THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH!

WHAT, SO YOU DIDN'T EVEN PAR-TICIPATE!?

I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING FESTIVAL-Y I DEFINITELY DID!

OH!

WELL, GEEZ, BUT...

SO NAGATO'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S DONE A PROPER FESTIVAL ACTIVITY.

AT NORTH HIGH!?

IT WAS AT THE NORTH HIGH FESTIVAL, BUT STILL!

I PLAYED IN A BAND!

I JUST HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR—IT SOUNDED LIKE THE LEAD VOCALIST HAD GOTTEN HURT.

I VISITED THE NORTH HIGH FESTIVAL TO KILL TIME, AND THERE WAS SOME KIND OF TROUBLE...

YOU SAY THAT LIKE IT WAS EASY!

SO I BORROWED A UNIFORM AND A GUITAR AND GAVE IT A SHOT.

THERE WAS ANOTHER PERSON WHO HELPED OUT...

OH NO, I COULDN'T DO THE GUITAR, SO I JUST SANG.

IS PLAYING A GUITAR WHILE SINGING SOMETHING YOU CAN JUST PICK UP ON THE SPOT?

POP

LOOM

WHAT KIND OF HELP IS THAT!?

SHE WAS DRESSED LIKE A WAITRESS OR SOMETHING.

YEAH, I CAN BELIEVE THAT.

SHE PLAYED THE PART LIKE IT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE.

ARGH, THAT'S TSUKUYA-SAN!

SHE SAID SOMETHING LIKE, "YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, NYORO!"

NOT YOUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL, THOUGH.

I HAD A DELIGHTFUL TIME AT A SCHOOL FESTIVAL TOO.

HMPH!

SO ANYWAY!

THAT'S IT! OF COURSE!

OH!

IN-DEED.

RIGHT, KOIZUMI-KUN?

HEY, A FESTIVAL'S A FESTIVAL!

CAN YOU GUYS ALL PLAY AN INSTRU-MENT?

WE'LL FORM A BAND! A BAND! YES!!!

WHAM

A BAND...

A BAND, HUH...?

A BAND, YOU SAY?

SERIOUSLY. WHY IS IT THAT THE ONLY TIME YOU TWO ARE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH IS WHEN YOU'RE PUNKING OUT LIKE THAT?

NO, THANK YOU.

BON

ペコリ

NO!!!

BAKA

PROGRAM-MING CHOICE CURRENTLY UNDER HEAVY DEBATE.

WE'RE THE LITERATURE CLUB, SO WHY DON'T WE DO AN ANTHOLOGY?

I'M NOT SURE I CAN GET UP IN FRONT OF THAT MANY PEOPLE...

LOOK, YOU...DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY DAYS ARE LEFT UNTIL THE FESTIVAL? A MONTH EXACTLY!

C'MON, I WANNA DO A BAND!! I WANNA!! I WANNA!

YAMMER

CLAMOR

YAMMER

CLAMOR

NAGATO
YUKI - CHAN
6

6
TO YUKI-CHAN
NAGATO

CLUBS WITHOUT THEIR OWN ROOM, SUCH AS SPORTS CLUBS, WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY WHEN DECIDING FOOD STALL ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER OUTDOOR INSTALLATIONS...

Activity Proposal

LITERATURE CLUB

BAND!!

- THE LITERATURE CLUB'S 100 FAVORITE BOOKS

MEETING ROOM

SINCE EVERY NORTH HIGH CLASS AND CLUB SUBMITTED THEIR ACTIVITY PROPOSAL AS OF A FEW DAYS AGO...

...THIS MEETING WILL DECIDE SHOP PLACEMENT...

OH, THAT WAS PROBABLY...

STILL, THIS CROSSED-OUT "BAND" THING... IS THAT...?

HA-HA, WELL, THAT'S CERTAINLY KYON'S MOTIVATION.

NO. NO WAY. THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A MANIFESTATION OF A DEEP LAZINESS OF SPIRIT.

MAYBE THEY'RE GOING TO HELP WITH KOUYOUEN, SO THEY'RE LEAVING TIME TO CONCENTRATE ON THAT?

TALK ABOUT TAKING THE EASY WAY OUT...

SERIOUS-LYYYY! WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT RECOM-MENDING BOOKS TO STRANGERS, HUH!?

YOU GUYS JUST DON'T GET IT!

STUPID, IDIOTIC, GOOD-FOR-NOTHINGS!

Epilogue 42 >> Going Home

...ALL RIGHT.

AND REMEMBER, I'LL HOLD A GRUDGE OVER THIS!

LET'S GO, KOIZUMI-KUN!

SLAM

...WE'RE THROUGH!

WELL, FINE! BUT I'M NOT GOING ALONG WITH THIS. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED...

THERE'S A TIME LIMIT!?

FLASH

WE'RE GONNA STAY BROKEN UP UNTIL THE FESTIVAL, GOT THAT!?

DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

NAH, IT'LL BE OKAY. SHE JUST WANTED TO GET THE LAST WORD IN. SHE'LL BE BACK.

SHOULD WE HAVE GONE AFTER HER?

I SWEAR...

...IS WHAT SHE SAID, AND THEN SHE LEFT.

YES! I WAS CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT YOU GUYS WERE UP TO.

OH, HEY. YOU'RE HERE TOO, SASAKI?

WELL, IF I SEE HER AGAIN, I'LL TRY TALKING TO HER.

IT'S NOT AS IF THERE'S TIME TO GET A BAND TOGETHER.

I'LL DO IT! NAGATO-SAN, YOU SIT DOWN.

OH, I'LL PUT TEA ON.

HEH-HEH. SO IT SEEMS.

NOT MUCH, AS YOU CAN SEE.

STILL, IT'S TOO BAD.

CLINK
カチャ

"HOW?" YOU SAY...

...HOW SUZUMIYA-SAN WAS GETTING ALONG WITH YOU GUYS.

I SORT OF WANTED TO SEE...

HOW'D YOU MANAGE TO SAY SUCH A MOUTH-FUL AT THE SAME TIME!!?

SHE ACTS LIKE SHE'S THE PRESI-DENT.

HMM, WELL...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HUH!?"

HUH!?

UM, SHE'S INDEPENDENT, HAS STRONG LEADERSHIP QUALITIES, IS REALLY RELIABLE...

...SHE ALWAYS TRIES SO DILIGENTLY TO MAKE THINGS FUN... I GUESS?

WELL, EVEN SO...

OH?

THAT'S SORT OF A SURPRISE.

ぱきっ
KRUNCH

HUH.

LIKE A FLOWER ON A HIGH CRAG.

RE-SERVED.

IF I HAD TO GIVE MY IMPRESSION OF THE SUZUMIYA-SAN I SEE AT KOUYOUEN ACADAMY...

SURE.

HEH-HEH, THAT MIGHT BE.

WHEN SHE COMES HERE, I BET SHE'S ONLY THINKING ABOUT HAVING FUN.

EVENTS

TRAVEL

QUIETLY STARING OFF INTO THE DIS-TANCE...

ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT SOME-THING.

...IS HER TRUE SELF.

I'LL BET THE VERSION OF HER THAT SPENDS TIME WITH YOU HERE...

BUT THAT'S WHAT SUZUMIYA-SAN LOOKS LIKE TO US, SINCE WE'VE NEVER SEEN HER HERE AT NORTH HIGH.

AS ONE OF HER FANS, I MEAN.

I'M A BIT JEAL-OUS.

SO PLEASE DON'T REPEAT ANY OF WHAT I'VE SAID TO HER.

WE'RE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES.

THE TRUTH IS, I'M NOT CLOSE TO SUZUMIYA-SAN AT ALL.

LISTEN TO ME, TALKING AS IF I KNOW ANYTHING...

OH! WHOOPS!

STILL, AFTER HEARING ALL THAT...

...IT MAKES ME WONDER IF WE DID A BAD THING.

I WANNA FORM A BAND!

...OKAY.

GOTCHA.

IT'S NEVER FUN TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLE'S SPECULATIONS ABOUT YOU, AFTER ALL...

YES, WELL, A BAND WOULD BE RATHER...

BUT I DON'T THINK THAT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS.

SLRRRP

ズ ズ ー

YEAH... MAYBE...

THANKS FOR INVITING ME! IT WAS FUN.

OH, OKAY. WELL, WE'LL SEE YOU LATER, THEN.

光陽園

Kouyouen Station

SURE I DO HAVE SOME TIME

OH? HMM

WELL, LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE THE BUS COMES. WANNA HANG OUT UNTIL THEN?

OKAY.

WAIT! LET ME GET MY BIKE

SHALL WE WALK TO THE NEXT BUS STOP? THAT WON'T BE OUT OF YOUR WAY, WILL IT?

SURE HAS. NOT SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

NOW THAT I REALLY THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE THE LAST TIME WE WALKED LIKE THIS.

HEH. I'M GLAD AT LEAST THAT MUCH HASN'T CHANGED.

BUT YEAH, MORE OR LESS.

HEY, DON'T NAG ME.

ARE YOU KEEPING YOUR GRADES UP?

HOW'S NORTH HIGH?

CHIKK

CHIKK

OH, HEY...

HMM?

AH...

I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED YOU'D BE A FAN OF SUZUMIYA.

HOW DO I PUT IT? SHE'S LIKE THE SUN.

...EVEN SO, SHE'S ALWAYS STUCK OUT.

ALWAYS DIFFERENT CLASSES, BUT...

I'VE BEEN IN THE SAME SCHOOL AS HER SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

I ALWAYS HOPED I'D WIND UP IN THE SAME CLASS AS HER...

...BUT IT NEVER WORKED OUT.

I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO HER.

IT'S EMBARRASSING TO ADMIT IT, BUT I'VE EVEN IMITATED HER BY GROWING MY HAIR OUT.

I DOUBT HER BASIC IDENTITY HAD CHANGED, BUT...

...SHE GAVE OFF A VERY LONELY FEELING.

WHEN I FIRST SAW HER AT KOUYOUEN ACADEMY, I WAS AS MUCH SURPRISED AS I WAS IMPRESSED.

THAT'S WHAT I REALIZED TALKING TO YOU GUYS TODAY.

...IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BUT...

THE MORE TIME PASSES, THE MORE PEOPLE CHANGE.

AND THE GIRL I'VE LOOKED UP TO FOREVER HAS FOUND WHERE SHE BELONGS: HERE.

SHE'S STILL HERSELF, EVEN TODAY.

HEH-HEH, IT'S NICE OF YOU TO INVITE ME.

...NO-BODY'S GONNA NOTICE AN EXTRA MEMBER OR TWO..

...YOU SHOULD COME BY NORTH HIGH TOO, THEN, EVEN AFTER THE FESTIVAL ENDS...

I ENVY YOU GUYS.

SURE.

IT'S BAD FOR YOUR EYES TO LOOK STRAIGHT AT THE SUN. DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?

BUT I'LL HAVE TO PASS.

SEEMS LIKE I ALWAYS TALK TOO MUCH WHEN I'M AROUND YOU, KYON.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE?

WELL, I GUESS THIS IS WHERE WE PART WAYS.

YEAH, SEE YOU

WELL, SEE YOU LATER.

HA-HA, TRUE

IT'S BAD. IT MIGHT NOT SHOW ON MY FACE, BUT IT'S PRETTY EMBARRASSING, REALLY.

OH, IT'S NO BIG DEAL, BUT WHILE I'M EMBARRASSING MYSELF, I MIGHT AS WELL SAY IT...

HMM? WHAT'S UP?

OH!

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.

HEY, OLD FRIEND.

SURE HAS, OLD FRIEND

SURE HAS!

Epilogue 43>> Festival Preparation (Kyon) I

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHIFFS, BUT IT'S GOT ONE OF THE BEST COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE RECORDS IN THE PREFECTURE.

STILL...

SO THIS IS KOUYOUEN, HUH? I'M [redacted] OF UP-TIGHT-NESS.

(plaque) "Festival Preparation (Kyon)"

LOOK, YOU [redacted]...

SERIOUSLY? I SHOULDVE [redacted] ONE TOO...

I BROUGHT AN UMBRELLA, JUST IN [redacted]

WHAT KIND OF THING IS THAT TO SAY AFTER I SLOGGED UP HERE?

NEVER KNEW YOU HAD THE VOLUNTEERING [redacted] IT WOULDN'T RAIN.

...KUNIKIDA'S ONE THING, BUT I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO [redacted] THIS.

THE USUAL THING, ALL RIGHT.

OH, SO THE USUAL THING.

LIKE HELL I'M GONNA SAY NO!

THINK ABOUT IT! ASAKURA, A RANK AA+ GIRL, ASKED ME TO DO IT!

LET'S MOVE AWAY. DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO THINK WE'RE LIKE HIM.

I DON'T HAVE TO SAY WHAT I'M THINKING, RIGHT?

A BIT OF EFFORT SHOULD YIELD [redacted] DIVIDENDS!

CLENCH

AND IT'S RIGHT BEFORE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!

THE PERFECT CHANCE TO GET CLOSE TO THE LOVELY LADIES OF KOUYOUEN ACADEMY!

HEY, SASAKI.

HEY, YOU GUYS! THANKS FOR COMING. WE'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU TODAY!

WHY THE HELL NOT!?

COULD YOU PLEASE NOT TALK TO US?

HMM? WHERE'RE YOU GUYS GOING?

IT HAS! SO YOU CAME TOO, KUNIKIDA-KUN? IT'S A HUGE HELP.

HELLO, SASAKI-SAN. IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

NAH, WE JUST GOT HERE.

SORRY, DID I KEEP YOU WAITING?

YOU OVER-ACHIEVERS RUN INTO EACH OTHER IN THE WEIRDEST PLACES.

OH, SO THAT *WAS* YOU!

IT HASN'T BEEN THAT LONG, THOUGH, SINCE I SEE YOU ALL THE TIME AT THE PRACTICE ENTRANCE EXAMS.

HUH? WHAT'S WRONG, TANI-GUCHI?

OH, SASAKI, THAT GUY OVER THERE IS TANIGUCHI.

ARE YOU GUYS ON THE SAME MISSION I AM!?

COULD YOU NOT LUMP US IN WITH YOU?

...D-DON'T TELL ME...

NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M SASAKI.

HEH HEH.

YOU'RE JUST THE INTERESTING SORT I WOULD EXPECT ONE OF KYON'S FRIENDS TO BE.

LIKE-WISE! I'M TANI-GUCHI!

WHERE DOES THIS GO...?

OH, THAT GOES...

SASAKIIII!

CHATTER

CHATTER

COMING THROUGH...

Y-YEAH...

ARE... ARE YOU OKAY?

!!

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

MAYBE JUST WALK IT TO NORTH HIGH LIKE THAT?

KOUYOU-KUN

HOW'RE WE GONNA MOVE THIS..?

YEAH...

HMM?

SASAKI, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU...

YEAH, SEE YOU THEN...

OKAY, LATER THEN

CAW

CAW

HE SURE DID.

HE WORKED PRETTY HARD TO SHOW OFF FOR THE GIRLS.

HUFF!

I CAN'T GO ON.

HUFF!

AUGH, I'M BEAT.

WHY ARE YOU GUYS THE ONLY ONES HYDRAT-ING?

FORGET THAT...

SHUT UP! I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT IT.

SO? ANYTHING TO SHOW FOR IT?

PSHHT

PSHHT

GO OUT AND TO YOUR RIGHT, AND YOU'LL SEE THE VENDING MACHINE. GET YOUR OWN.

WHERE'S MINE?

FINE, I'M GOING.

YET NECESSITY KNOWS NO LIMITS.

YOU KNOW HOW FAR THAT IS FOR ME RIGHT NOW...?

S-SORRY! I WAS JUST SPACING OUT, AND...

ARE YOU HURT?

WHOA!

!

.....

HUH?

YES, YOU ARE!

—I'M FINE...

YOU CAN DO THAT LATER!

— BUT THIS HAS TO BE TAKEN OUT TO THE TRACK...

NO, YOU'RE GOING!

— IT'S REALLY NOTHING.

WH- WHERE'S THE NURSE'S OFFICE?

SURE THING.

DASH

POP

DON'T SWEAT IT. I'LL TAKE IT—YOU GO.

THANKS! I OWE YOU!

AT LEAST HE DIDN'T HAVE A PIECE OF TOAST HANGING OUT OF HIS MOUTH AS HE RAN TO SCHOOL, BUT MAN...

MUST BE LOVE.

WE'LL HEAD HOME WHEN TANIGUCHI GETS BACK.

GOTCHA.

SHFF

ANYWAY, I'D BETTER RUN THIS STUFF OUT.

I GUESS I'D BETTER TELL SASAKI WE'RE LEAVING.

OH.

SASAKI!

HEY, SASA—

GOOD TIMING. THERE SHE IS.

HEY.

PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME!!!

I LOVE YOU!

CLACK
URK!

HMM?

UH.

Festival Preparations (Lyon) 8

AH.

HAAH.

UH.

SORT OF AN AWKWARD THING TO WALK IN ON, EH...?

Epilogue 44>>

Festival Preparation (Kyon) 2

AND IF IT'S "YES," THEN WE CAN SEE IT TOGETH-ER!

I'LL COME SEE YOU WHEN THE FESTIVAL STARTS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER RIGHT AWAY!

A-ANYWAY, SASAKI!

SEE YOU LATER!

I'M GOING NOW!

OKAY, THEN!

.....

TUP TUP TUP

CLATTER

PRETTY AWKWARD THING FOR YOU TO SEE, EH?

URGH!

BUT NOW SOMEONE'S APPEARED WITH WHOM I CAN SHARE THE SECRET.

NORMALLY, I WOULD'VE HAD TO SUFFER ALONE.

BUT IN A WAY, IT'S A GOOD THING.

YOU SEE, KYON.

...I NEED SOME ROMANTIC ADVICE.

SO THANKS IN ADVANCE.

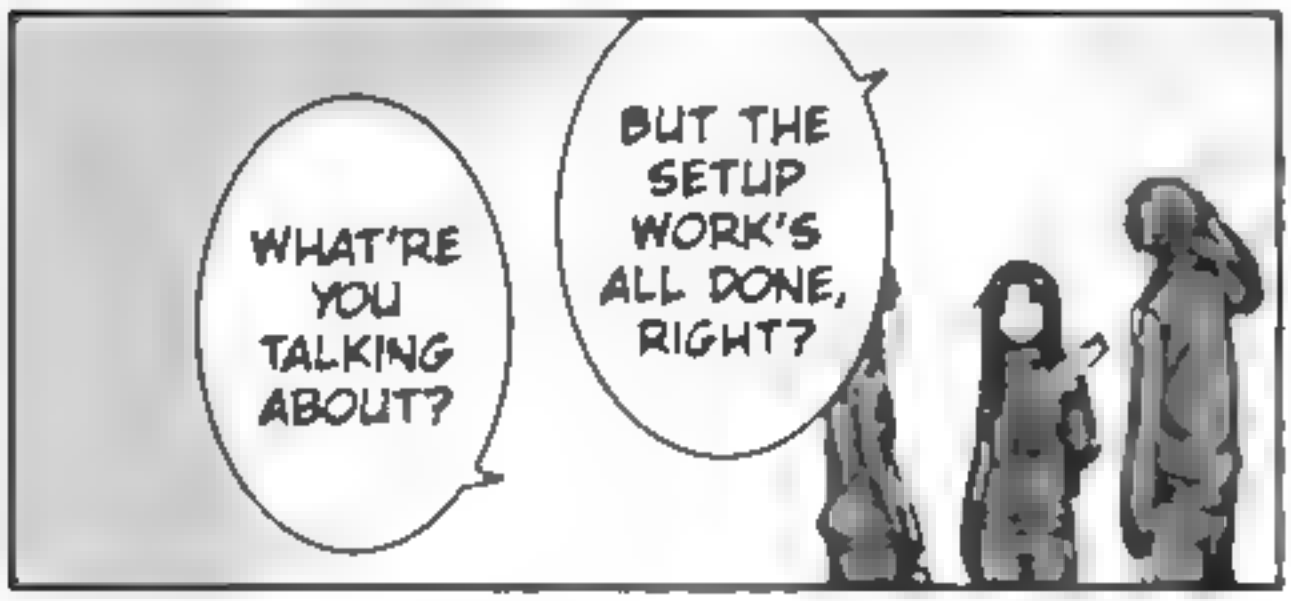
WHOOPS, SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR WORK!

FIRST LET ME GET THIS STUFF WHERE IT BELONGS.

THE DAY BEFORE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

S-SORRY.
DON'T JUST STAND THERE SPACING OUT.

HEY!
NGH.
!


WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BUT THE SETUP WORK'S ALL DONE, RIGHT?

URK.

U

WE STILL HAVE TO DO THE LITERA-TURE CLUB DISPLAY.

U

DID YOU THINK OF ANY BOOKS?

THE "HUNDRED FAVORITE BOOKS" IDEA WAS SO EASY THAT I FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT...

WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW...

I KNEW IT...

...NOPE.

...WE JUST KEPT PUTTING IT OFF.

WITH ALL THE HELPING WE DID FOR THE PLANNING COMMIT-TEE...

AH HA HA.

...WHAT BOOKS DID YOU BRING, ASAKURA?

LITERATURE CLUB

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

...MOSTLY ...

RUSTLE

SHUFFLE

HEH-HEH, WELL...

OH, YOU WANNA SEE?

STEW IN THE SUMMER-TIME? IS THIS A NEW PUNISH-MENT!?

WHY NOT? YOU CAN EAT STEW ALL YEAR ROUND.

AND IT'S MOSTLY STEW!

極おでん

おでん特集!!

食べ歩きおでん

アボなしレポ

秋の伝の

WHAT, THOSE MAGA-ZINES!?

...TA-DAA! COOK-BOOKS!

今日のおかず 100

MAGAZINE (RIGHT): TODAY'S SIDE DISHES
MAGAZINES (ABOVE): STEW

I WAS LIKE, WOW, ENDLESS EIGHT...

ONE WEEK WE HAD EIGHT CHILLED STEW DAYS...

NA-GATO !?

DON'T LOOK AT ME WITH SUCH PITY! MOST PEOPLE DON'T DO CHILLED STEW!

HUH? DO YOU NOT MAKE CHILLED STEW AT YOUR HOUSE?

SHE'S PUTTING A POSITIVE SPIN ON EVERYTHING SHE HEARS NOW.

AH HA HA!

YEAH, SUMMER STEW REALLY IS GREAT.

YEAH, YEAH! I'VE BEEN WONDER-ING ABOUT THAT TOO!

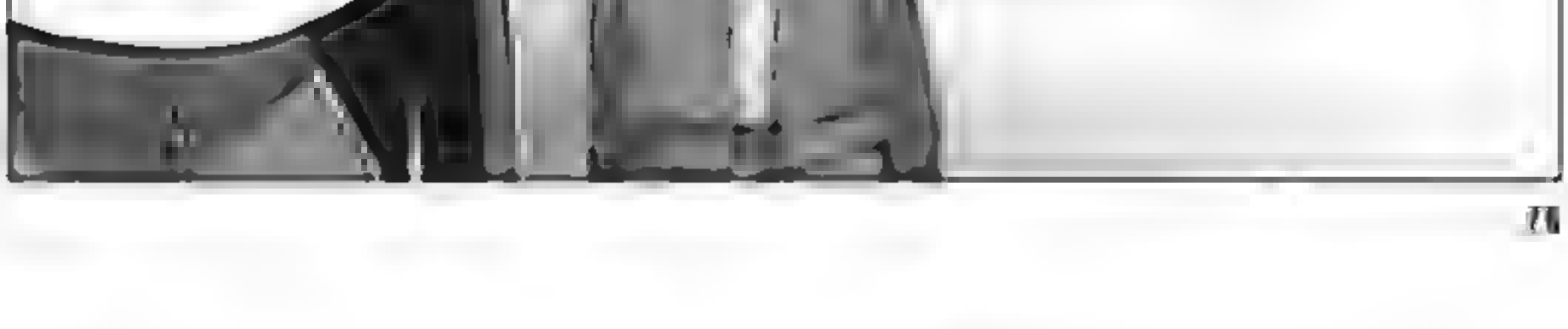
OH... WELL...

OKAY, THAT'S FINE, ASAKURA. WHAT'D YOU BRING, NAGATO?

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY OF THE BOOKS YOU'VE BEEN READING LATELY, SO I'M REALLY INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU PICKED!

STOP

AND I'M SURE YOU WOULDN'T BRING ANY STRATEGY GUIDES,



...SINCE YOU GUYS WERE SO ADMIRABLY BUSY YOU FORGOT EVERYTHING, I HAVE AN EMERGENCY MISSION FOR YOU.

WELL...

GO TO THE LIBRARY.

AND TRY TO PICK SMART-LOOKING BOOKS !!!

"A" DASHHH!

GO!

"Hm" BOOM

THE LIBRARY IS CLOSED DURING THE FESTIVAL. WHICH MEANS RIGHT NOW THERE'S NOBODY THERE. NEED I SAY ANY MORE?

WHA...?
DOESN'T IT BUG YOU?
AH, WELL...
IF YOU ASK ME, ASAKURA'S BEING A LITTLE EXTREME.
I DON'T THINK SHE'S LOOKING FOR SCIENCE-NERD-SMARTS-LEVEL BOOKS...
HMM... LIKE PHYSICS?
I MEAN, WHAT DOES "PICK SMART-LOOKING BOOKS" EVEN MEAN?

H-HEY, UM...

:

MAYBE A HISTORY BOOK...?

Eh"

TWITCH

...MAYBE IT'S WEIRD FOR ME TO ASK, BUT...

...DO YOU HAVE PLANS TO WALK AROUND THE FESTIVAL WITH ANY-BODY?

"KYON, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK."

もじ

FIDGET

もじ

FIDGET

'COS, UM, IF YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO, THEN...

SORRY, YOU CAN JUST HEAD HOME WITHOUT ME.

HEY, KUNI-KIDA?

HERE.

AND I GUESS DURING THE TIME WE'VE TALKED AS COMMITTEE MEMBERS, HE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO ME.

...ON THE SAME PLANNING COMMITTEE AS ME.

HE'S...

AND I'VE TURNED HIM DOWN EVERY TIME...

BUT HE'S A RATHER ECCENTRIC PERSON, IT SEEMS.

HE'S CONFESSED TO ME SEVERAL TIMES.

I'M STARTING TO RESENT THAT I FEEL LIKE I HAVE TO GO ON THE DEFENSIVE.

AND THERE'S JUST NO ROOM FOR ME TO MANEUVER.

...IT'S MY FIRST TIME WITH THIS SORT OF THING TOO.

I SUPPOSE I NEED TO SHUT HIM DOWN MORE FIRMLY, BUT...

SO... KYON...

SHFF

"

.....

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.

WOULD YOU GO OUT WITH ME?

.....

WOULD YOU GO OUT WITH ME?

HOW DID WE JUMP FROM YOUR ROMANTIC TROUBLES...

...TO ME GOING OUT WITH YOU!?

NO, NO, NO, HANG ON A SEC...

HUH!?

WHOOPS, SORRY.

I GOT EXCITED AND STARTED WITH THE CONCLUSION.

LOOK, KYON, IT'S SIMPLE.

IF HE THINKS THAT YOU AND I ARE DATING..

..IT'LL HELP HIM GET OVER HIS DELUSIONS AND LET GO OF HIS CRUSH ON ME ONCE AND FOR ALL.

BASI-CALLY, YOU'LL JUST BE PRETENDING TO GO OUT WITH ME

HEH, NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

BOTH OF US ARE TERR BLE ACTORS.

STILL WON'T IT BE OBVI-OUS THAT WE'RE NOT?

...OH, SO THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT...

JUST THINK BACK TO THE WAY WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

EVEN THOUGH WE WERE JUST HANGING OUT...

GIVEN THAT IT'S YOU AND ME, THERE WON'T BE A NEED FOR ANY ACTING.

...PEOPLE AROUND US ALWAYS ASSUMED WE WERE DATING.

HAH, YOU WENT AND SAID IT.

OR AT LEAST KUNIKIDA-KUN DID.

...BUT I WONDER IF YOU'RE NOT PUTTING TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON KUNIKIDA'S OPINION.

YOU MAKE IT SOUND PRETTY SIMPLE...

WE WON'T NEED TO DO ANY FAKE-LOOKING ACTING.

IN OTHER WORDS, WE'LL JUST USE THE MISUNDER-STANDING TO OUR ADVAN-TAGE.

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.

I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN...

PLOP

BUT HIS POWERS OF OBSERVATION ARE REALLY GOOD. HONESTLY ...

HEH, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HIM FOR THAT.

...IF THAT'S HOW HE SAW US, THAT'S PROBABLY HOW WE LOOKED, OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING.

HUH? OH...

WHAT'RE YOU SPACING OUT FOR?

HOW ABOUT IT? WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?

STILL...

I'M PERFECTLY AWARE THAT THERE'S NOTHING IN IT FOR YOU.

...I CAN ASK THIS FAVOR OF.

...THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON...

SASAK

I GET IT.

JUST YOU, KYON.

THERE'S NO NEED TO OVER-THINK IT.

THIS WOULD CLUTTER PRETENDING TO BE FINE.

...SHE NEEDS MY HELP.

SASAKI, MY GOOD FRIEND...

SO...

WHAT I SHOULD DO SOON.

—LOVE YOU.

I LOVE YOU.

NAGA—

HUH?

OH...

KYON?

SHF

SORRY, SASAKI...

.....

...I CAN'T PRETEND TO GO OUT WITH YOU.

EVEN AS A LIE... NO...

SORRY.

I SEE... THAT'S TOO BAD.

...A WHILE AGO, A GIRL CONFESSED TO ME.

THAT WAS UN-CALLED FOR

I GUESS THERE ARE ECCENTRICS AT NORTH HIGH TOO

OH?

THAT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF HARD TO EXPLAIN

WENT AWAY? DID SHE TRANSFER SCHOOLS?

SHE WENT AWAY BEFORE I COULD REPLY.

AND DID YOU GO OUT WITH HER?

IT FEELS LIKE FAKING A RELATION-SHIP LIKE THAT...

HOW CAN I PUT IT?

ANYWAY, THIS ISN'T BECAUSE I STILL HAVE FEELINGS FOR HER OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

TO THE PERSON WHO REALLY HAD THOSE KINDS OF FEELINGS FOR ME, I MEAN.

...WOULD BE KIND OF UNGRATE-FUL.

HEH-HEH. KNOWING THAT JUST MAKES ME FEEL WORSE.

IF THAT HADN'T HAPPENED, I WOULD'VE GONE ALONG WITH YOU.

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SAYING IT'S A GOOD OR BAD THING.

THAT MAKES ME FEEL SORT OF BAD, AS THE PERSON WHO ASKED YOU TO.

I SEE.

JUST SO I KNOW...

HEY, SASAKI?

I DON'T KNOW. I HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THAT.

YOU DON'T KNOW...? ARE YOU EVEN WORRYING THAT MUCH ABOUT YOUR SITUATION ...?

...IF I'D SAID I'D DO IT, HOW LONG WOULD I HAVE HAD TO KEEP IT UP FOR?

!!

SO BASICALLY UNTIL THE FESTIVAL, THEN?

...HE'D GET THE PICTURE, BUT...

I JUST FIGURED THAT IF HE SAW US PALLING AROUND LIKE USUAL...

YOU JUST DESTROYED MY ONLY PLAN, AFTER ALL.

KYON, WHAT KIND OF PRESENT PROGRESSIVE FORM IS THAT TO USE? I'M SERIOUSLY WORRYING HERE.

UH, THAT WOULD BE PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS ACTUALLY GOING OUT, YOU KNOW...

TO MAKE IT SEEM REAL, I WAS THINKING THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR.

OH NO, IF WE CALLED IT QUITS THEN, HE'D PROBABLY FIGURE OUT THAT IT WAS A RUSE.

I MEAN, YOU KNOW...

SORRY, SORRY! I JUST HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT. IT WAS A MATTER OF PRIORITIES, YOU KNOW

GIMME A BREAK...

HA-HA, NO KIDDING!

...IT'S NOT LIKE OUR RELATIONSHIP WOULD CHANGE.

...WHETHER OR NOT WE'RE GOING OUT...

SO, KYON. YOU'RE HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL, RIGHT?

YEAH, I LEFT MY UNIFORM THERE.

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

WELL.

.....

GUESS THAT MEANS THIS IS WHERE WE PART WAYS.

YUP.

YEAH. SEE YOU LATER!

SEE YOU LATER, MY GOOD AND DEAR FRIEND!

LATER...

SO YOU'RE NAGATO-SAN?

A SHORT TIME AGO.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE LOOKING AFTER KYON AT NORTH HIGH.

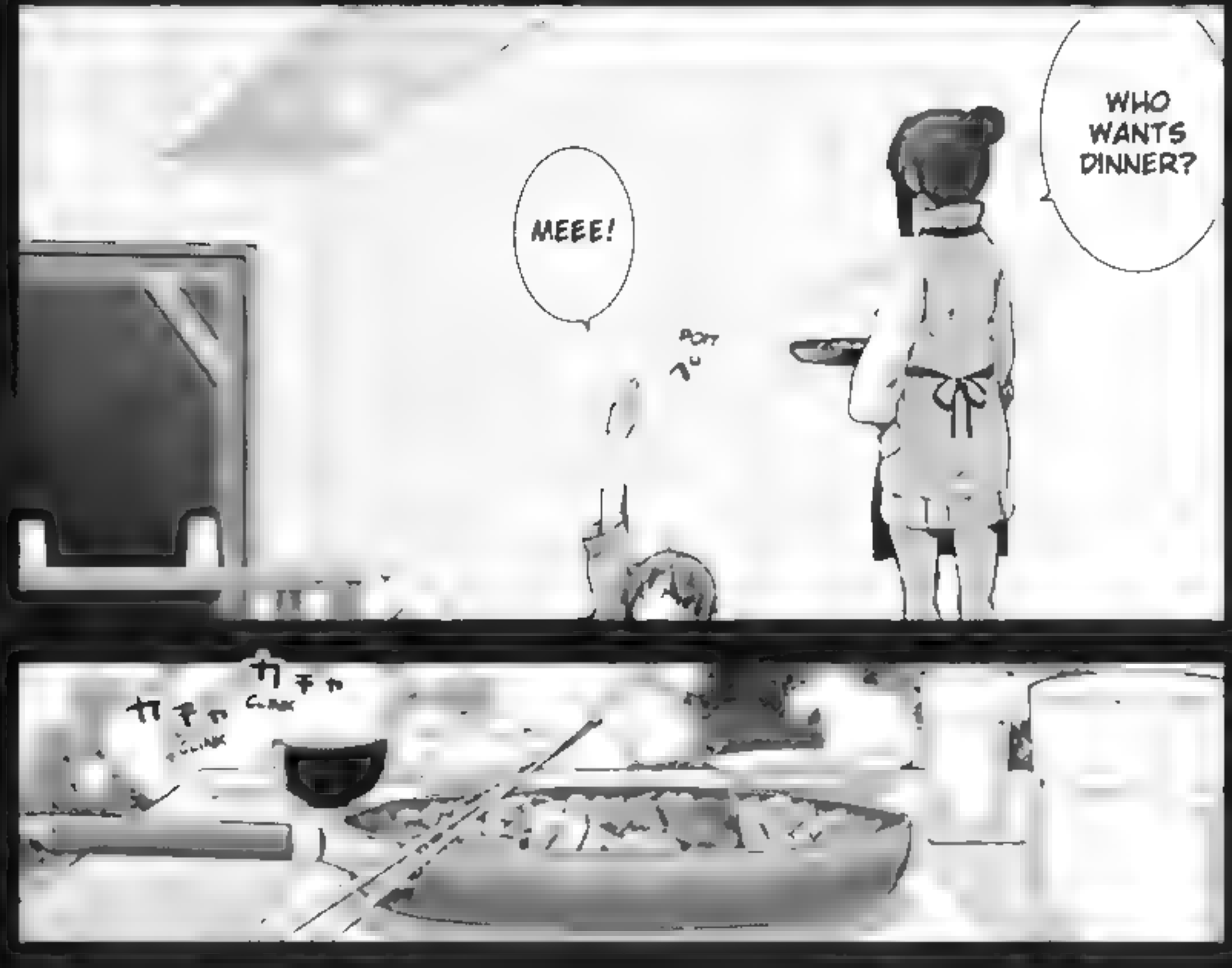
I WAS JUST HEARING ABOUT YOU.

Epilogue 46>> Festival Preparation (Nagato) I

SHIFF

NICE TO MEET YOU.

STARING


MEEE!
POT
WHO WANTS DINNER?

CLINK
CLINK

HMM?

.....

AND TODAY THE CABBAGE WAS LIKE...

GLOOOM

GLOOOM

GASP!

I HAVE A STRONG SUSPICION I KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT...

GOODNESS, FROM HER EXPRESSIONS, SHE MUST BE THINKING HARD ABOUT SOMETHING.

PARDON ME FOR ASKING, BUT ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT SASAKI?

CLATTER

KOFF! KOFF! MY THROAT...!

WHA—!? ARE YOU OKAY?

PFFUH!? GAH—!

.....

GEEZ, DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT.

HERE.

I-I'M OKAY... I WAS JUST SUR-PRISED... I'M OKAY NOW.

SHE SURE IS. I MEAN, SUZUMIYA'S PRETTY, BUT SHE'S SORT OF A WEIRDO, SO...

BUT SASAKI SEEMS LIKE SHE'S NICE ON THE INSIDE TOO, WHICH JUST MAKES HER SEEM ALL THE MORE...

SHE'S REALLY PRETTY...

SASAKI-SAN...

WORST CASE, THEY MIGHT'VE EVEN DATED IN THE PAST...

GLOOM

KI!

PLUS, SHE WENT TO THE SAME MIDDLE SCHOOL AS KYON-KUN, SO SHE'S GOT THE CHILDHOOD FRIEND THING GOING.

AND SHE CAN JUST STRAIGHT UP CALL HIM HER "DEAR FRIEND" TOO.

GASP!!!

KRIK

KRIK

KRAKKK

HONESTLY. PAY ATTENTION, WILL YOU?

HOH... HOKAY...

TINGLE

TINGLE

KRAKLE

ALL RIGHT, OKAY, DON'T FREAK OUT!

I WAS JUST JOKING!!

SHATTER

SO HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF!

...IS YOU, NAGATO-SAN...

...THE ONE WHO'S FRIENDS WITH HIM NOW...

WHATEVER MAY HAVE HAPPENED IN THE PAST...

MEW!

BAP

BUT! NOOBS WHO HAVEN'T EVEN CONFESSED YET HAD BETTER NOT GET TOO EXCITED!

BOP

...OKAY.

THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME BEFORE THE FESTIVAL AND ALL, AND I'VE GOTTEN ROPED INTO HELPING OUT WITH THIS AND THAT...

HUH?

YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE CLUB MEETING?

ドキ"
BADUM

OH, Y-YEAH...

SO DID ASAKURA, BUT...MAN, THAT SASAKI IS A REAL TASK-MASTER.

LISTEN TO THIS: I EVEN GOT ROPED INTO HELPING WITH THE KOUYOUEN INSTALLA-TIONS.

HA HA!

HA-HA. THANKS, BUT THE STUFF I'M HELPING OUT WITH IS ALL PHYSICAL LABOR.

OH, FESTIVAL STUFF? I SHOULD HELP TOO...

...

SORRY. IT'S JUST UNTIL THE FESTIVAL.

AH... S-SURE, I UNDER-STAND.

NAGATO?

SO I GUESS IT'LL BE JUST ME IN THE CLUB-ROOM FOR A WHILE...

OKAY, GOT IT.

REALLY? THANKS.

I'VE GOT IT COVERED.

YOU KNOW BOTH OF 'EM, ACTU-ALLY.

NEED MAN-POWER, RIGHT?

POP

ヒョコ…

HEYA, KYON, PERFECT TIMING. ABOUT SETTING UP THAT STALL...

NOW...

MURMUR

NOT ME.

...THE ONE WHO'S FRIENDS WITH HIM...

...IS...

TUD

TUD

TUD

HAAH...

TROT

TROT

THUD

EEK!

NAGATO-SAN, ARE YOU OKAY?

OWWWWW!

!?

?

HUH?

A TAMBOU-RINE?

IT'S OKAY! I WAS SPACING OUT TOO, SO

URK...I'M OKAY...I WAS JUST LOST IN THOUGHT AND I'M SORRY!

IS SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU?

UM, IT'S NOTHING...

FIDGET

FIDGET

IT'S STRANGE FOR YOU NOT TO BE PAYING ATTENTION TO WHERE YOU'RE GOING, NAGATO-SAN.

A-A-A-ANYWAY, ENOUGH ABOUT ME— WHAT'S UP?

SHWISH

HUH?

...I'M A REALLY GOOD LISTENER, YOU KNOW.

WELL! IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL, BUT...

FWP

YEAH...

AH, I SEE... KYON'S FRIEND FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL...

AND BECAUSE YOU KNOW HIM NOW, YOU WANT TO KNOW HIM MORE AND MORE.

...WHO'S KNOWN THE PERSON YOU LIKE LONGER THAN YOU HAVE.

IT'S EASY TO ENVY SOMEONE...

YOU'RE JEALOUS OF THIS GIRL, AREN'T YOU, NAGATO-SAN?

It's okay!

You're allowed to be jealous.

Hee hee.

IT'S PERFECTLY NATURAL.

IT'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED OR DEPRESSED OVER.

...HOW LOVE WORKS.

THAT'S JUST...

WHA...? HUH?

I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT, I CAN TELL! ♪

NATURALLY, YOU DON'T WANT TO BE AWAY FROM HIM FOR A SINGLE MOMENT! ♡

!?

THOUGH IT'S ADORABLE THAT YOU'RE FRUSTRATED OVER SOMEONE ELSE HOGGING KYON-KUN! ♡

HEH HEH. LISTEN CARE-FULLY...

KUH !?

AH! I'VE GOT THE PERFECT PLAN TO RECAPTURE KYON-KUN!

U-UM!

THE WAY TO RECAPTURE KYON-KUN IS...

HEH-HEH. LISTEN CAREFULLY...

Epilogue 47>> Festival Preparation (Nagato) 2

...AND WALK AROUND THE SCHOOL WITH HIM!

INVITE KYON TO THE NORTH HIGH FESTIVAL FESTIVAL...

IN SHORT!

S-SO... THEN...

HOW SHOULD I GO ABOUT INVITING HIM...?

OHH!

CHIK

HUH?

YES!?

YOU ...

FIRST !?

W-WELL... FIRST...

...THEN *TRY TO GET UP THE COUR-AGE* TO ASK HIM... OUT...?

...*SOME-HOW* GET HIM ALONE...

YOU *FIGURE OUT SOME WAY* TO APPROACH KYON-KUN...

GLOOM

SEN-PAI!?

I'M SORRY... I'M A TERRIBLE SENPAI...

...GOING HOME.

I'M...

..I COULDN'T GIVE YOU A SINGLE USEFUL PIECE OF ADVICE ...

I ACTED ALL BIG, BUT...

DASH

AH...

JUST CALM DOWN, OKAY?

ASA-HINA-SEN-PAI!

BAM

I'M...

I'M REALLY GLAD I GOT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THIS.

YOUR ADVICE ALWAYS CHEERS ME UP!

OKAY!

...YOU ALWAYS MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

IF I WERE A BOY!

ANYTIME I COME TO YOU WITH A PROBLEM I'M HAVING...

I THIN HE'LL B REALL HAPPY

...GET UP THE COURAGE...

AND SOME-HOW...

I'VE DECIDED.

I'M GOING TO FIGURE OUT SOME WAY...

...TO ASK HIM TO GO WITH ME...!

DO YOUR BEST...

カチャ
JINGLE

I WILL!

THE DAY BEFORE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL. MORNING.

ちゅん

ちゅん

ちゅんちゅん

OH, ASA-KURA-SAN.

ピピピ

TOMOR-ROW'S THE FESTIVAL, AND I STILL HAVEN'T ASKED HIM!

WH-
WHAT'S
WRONG
!?

BADUM
BADUM
ドキ
ドキ

FLINCH

NAGATO-
SAAAN...

KACHAK
ガチャ

...THAT
I WOULD
FORGET
ABOUT
OUR OWN
CLUB'S
DISPLAY.

Activity Proposal

LITERATURE
CLUB

~~BAND!!~~

↓

- THE LITERATURE CLUB'S 100 FAVORITE BOOKS

WELL...
I'VE JUST
BEEN SO
CARELESS.

TO THINK
THAT I
WOULD BE SO
CAUGHT UP
IN FESTIVAL
PREPARA-
TIONS...

STEP
スタ
STEP
スタ

SURE.

...CAN YOU QUICKLY GATHER UP SOME BOOKS?

THIS IS A LITTLE SUDDEN, BUT WHILE I'M MAKING BREAK-FAST...

...IS THAT IF WE COLLECT THE BOOKS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CREATE SOMETHING, AT LEAST.

OUR ONE SAVING GRACE...

SIZZLE

JUST ANYTHING YOU'VE REALLY LIKED LATELY.

WHAT KIND OF BOOKS WOULD BE GOOD...?

I TOTALLY FORGOT.

AH, THE HUNDRED FAVORITE BOOKS THING... DID WE REALLY SAY THAT MANY?

.....

WELL, DANG...

I KNEW IT...

...NOPE.

DID YOU THINK OF ANY BOOKS?

HEH.

IT HASN'T FELT LIKE THIS IN HERE FOR A WHILE...

WHAT, THOSE MAOA- ZINES!?

TA-DAA! COOK-BOOKS!

...WHAT BOOKS DID YOU BRING, ASAKURA?

TWITCH

STEW, HUH?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH STEW?

AND IT'S MOSTLY STEW!

YEAH, YEAH! I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THAT TOO!

I...

AH...

HUH?

OKAY, THAT'S FINE, ASAKURA. WHAT'D YOU BRING, NAGATO?

TING

AND I'M SURE YOU WOULDN'T BRING ANY STRATEGY GUIDES, SO...

ぱやっ

SPARKLE

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY OF THE BOOKS YOU'VE BEEN READING LATELY, SO I'M REALLY INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU PICKED!

TWITCH

THUD

...DIDN'T SHE?

THIS AND THIS AND THIS...

SHE SAID TO BRING BOOKS I LIKED...

LIBRARY

GEEZ.

CLATTER

ガラリ

SOMETIMES ASAKURA SAYS THE CRAZIEST THINGS.

EVEN IF IT'S NOT BEING USED FOR THE FESTIVAL, SNEAKING IN TO GRAB BOOKS...

BUT HEY, DESPERATE TIMES, I GUESS.

Y-YEAH.

LET'S HURRY UP AND GET SOME "SMART-LOOKING" BOOKS LIKE SHE WANTS.

?

SOMEHOW WE'VE MANAGED TO WIND UP ALONE TOGETHER.

WHAT IF HE SAYS NO? WHAT'LL I DO...?

WHAT IF HE SAYS HE'S ALREADY GOING WITH SASAKI-SAN...?

WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I SAY...?

IF YOU ASK ME, ASAKURA'S BEING A LITTLE EXTREME.

AH, WELL...

WHA ...?

DOESN'T IT BUG YOU?

I HAVE TO SAY IT.

I DON'T THINK SHE'S LOOKING FOR SCIENCE-NERD-SMART'S-LEVEL BOOKS

HMM... LIKE PHYSICS?

I HAVE TO SAY IT...

I MEAN, WHAT DOES "DICK SMART-LOOKING BOOKS" EVEN MEAN?

H-HEY, UM...

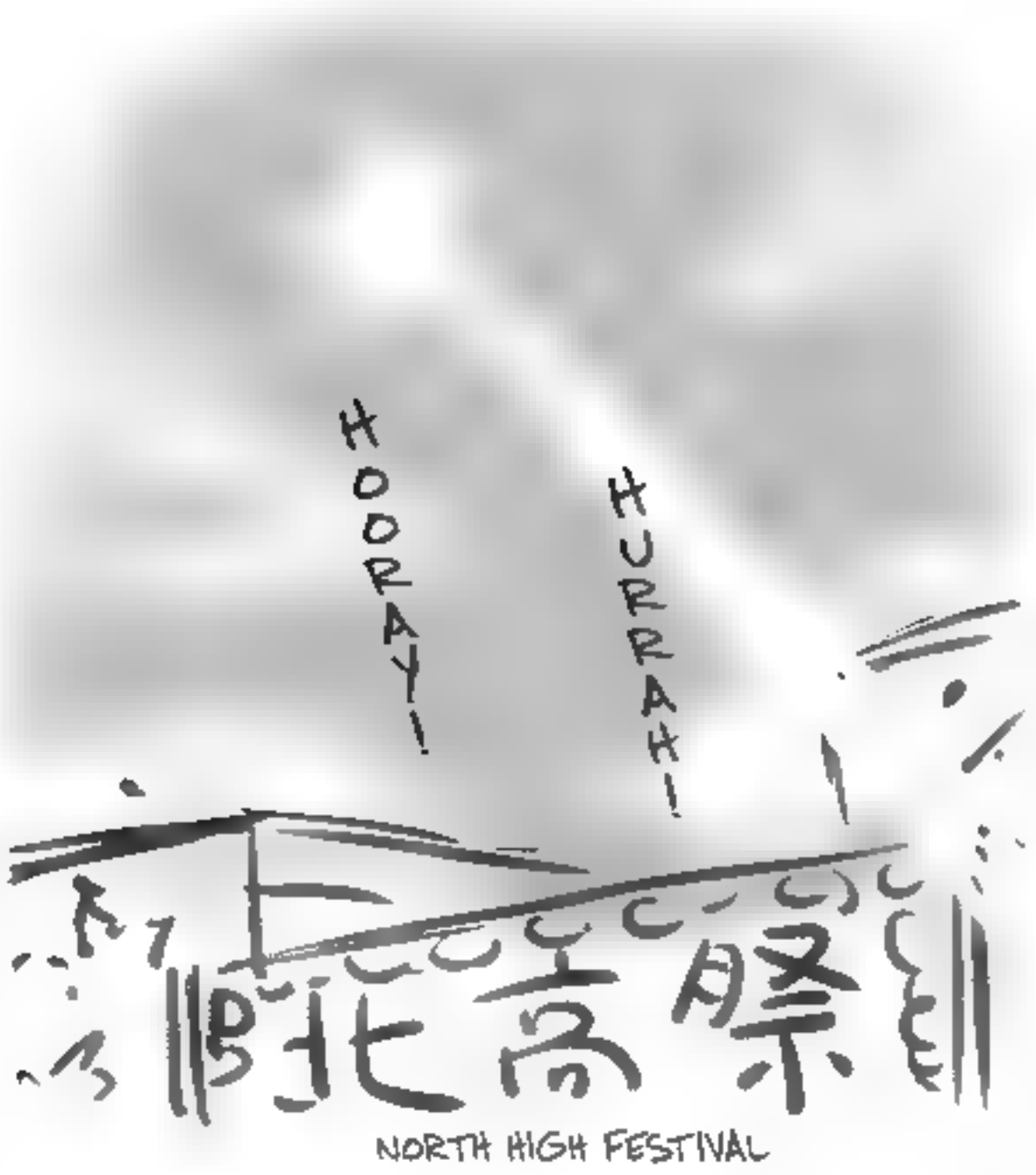
.....

"DO YOUR BEST..."

...IF YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO, THEN...

'COS, UM...

...COULD WE WALK AROUND THE FESTIVAL... TOGETHER ...?


HOORAY!
HURRAH!
北高祭
NORTH HIGH FESTIVAL

THE DAY OF THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

Epiloque 48 .. Festival Day

HUFF!

HUFF!

HUFF!

...SORRY I'M LATE!

SOR...

わたし

WHOOM

I'M USUALLY A VERY PUNCTU-AL MAN!

JUST GO YOU KNOW!

IT'S OKAY...I... JUST GOT HERE TOO...

BUT I JUST...

SERIOUS-LY, I WAS GOING TO BE HERE EARLIER!

.....

I WAS SO NER-VOUS I HAD TO GO TO THE BATH-ROOM FIRST ...

WHY DID I SAY THAT OUT LOUD !!!?

HUH?

TEE HEE HEE!

HEE!

YOU'RE SO FUNNY...

YEAH!

IS THIS KIND OKAY?

SSK

HERE YOU ARE.

NO BIG DEAL.

YEAH. SORRY TO MAKE YOU GET MINE TOO.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT OF THIS ELABORATE SCHEME TO INDIRECTLY TURN HIM DOWN, BUT...

AND? WHAT'D YOU DO?

WOW, SO HE CON-FESSED, HUH?

SO I JUST TURNED HIM DOWN CLEARLY AND DIRECTLY.

...IT COLLAPSED, LIKE ELABORATE SCHEMES TEND TO DO.

"I'M SORRY. I ALSO..."

"...BUT, SASAKI, I STILL...!"

"I'M SORRY. I CAN'T GO OUT WITH YOU."

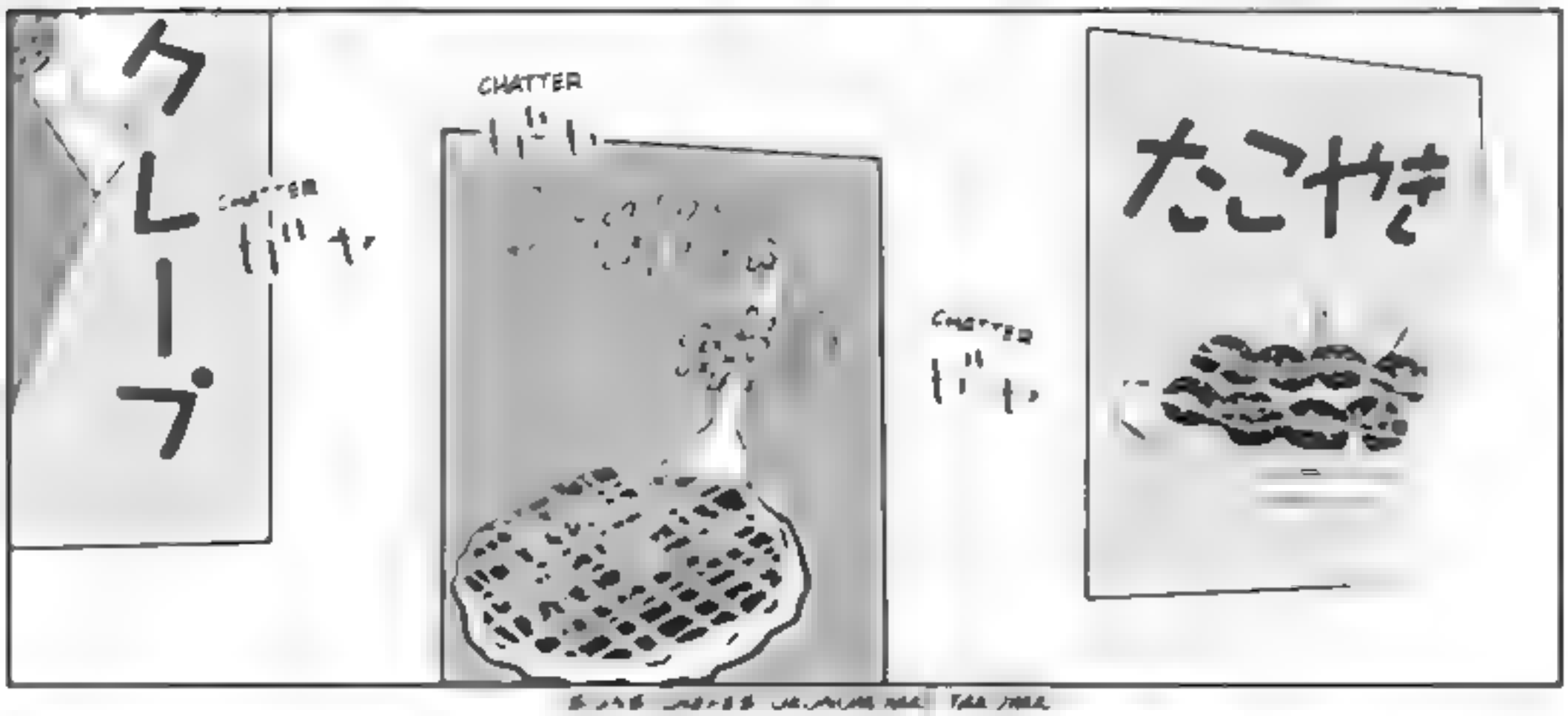
...I'M THINKING OF...

...HAVE SOME-ONE...

...YOU LOOK PRETTY RELIEVED!

HEH HEH.

DO I?


CHATTER
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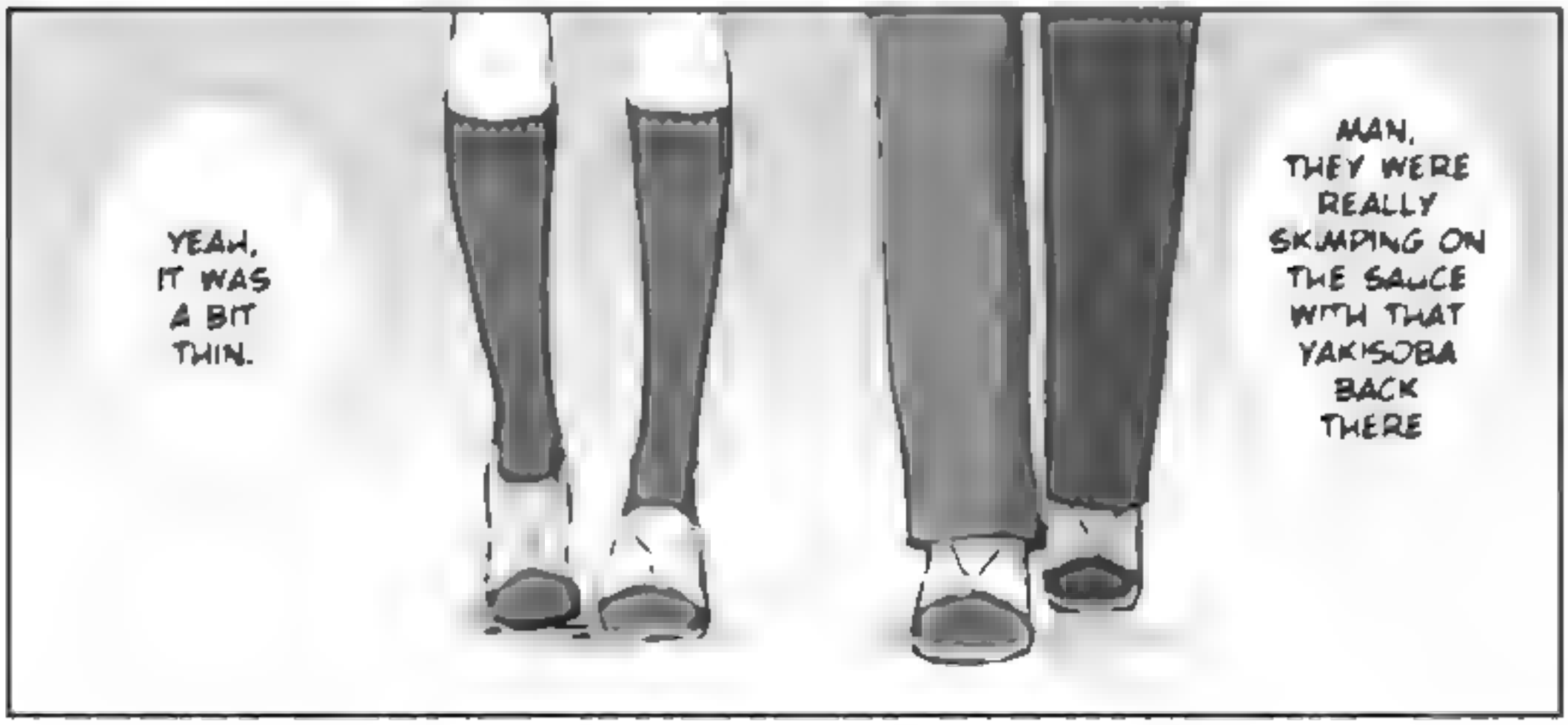

YEAH, IT WAS A BIT THIN.
MAN, THEY WERE REALLY SKIMPING ON THE SAUCE WITH THAT YAKISOBA BACK THERE

ALL RIGHT, NAGATO, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT NEXT?

MMMM...

IT WAS PRETTY TASTE-LESS. I BARELY FEEL LIKE I ATE ANY-THING...

FLYER: NORTH HIGH FESTIVAL MAP

BLIMP

THEY'RE SELLING THAT!?

KEBAB?

SERI-OUSLY? WHERE?

IT'S WRITTEN RIGHT HERE.

……

SHUFFLE

SHUFFLE …

NO, NO, NO, I-I-IT'S MY FAULT TOO...

S-SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET THAT CLOSE TO YOU.

BLAB BLAB

PFFT!

PFFT!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET SOME KEBAB!

YEAH!

AH-HA-HA-HA-HA!

SIGN: KEBAB

HERE WE GO!!!

ALL RIGHT, YOU GUYS!

1!

2!

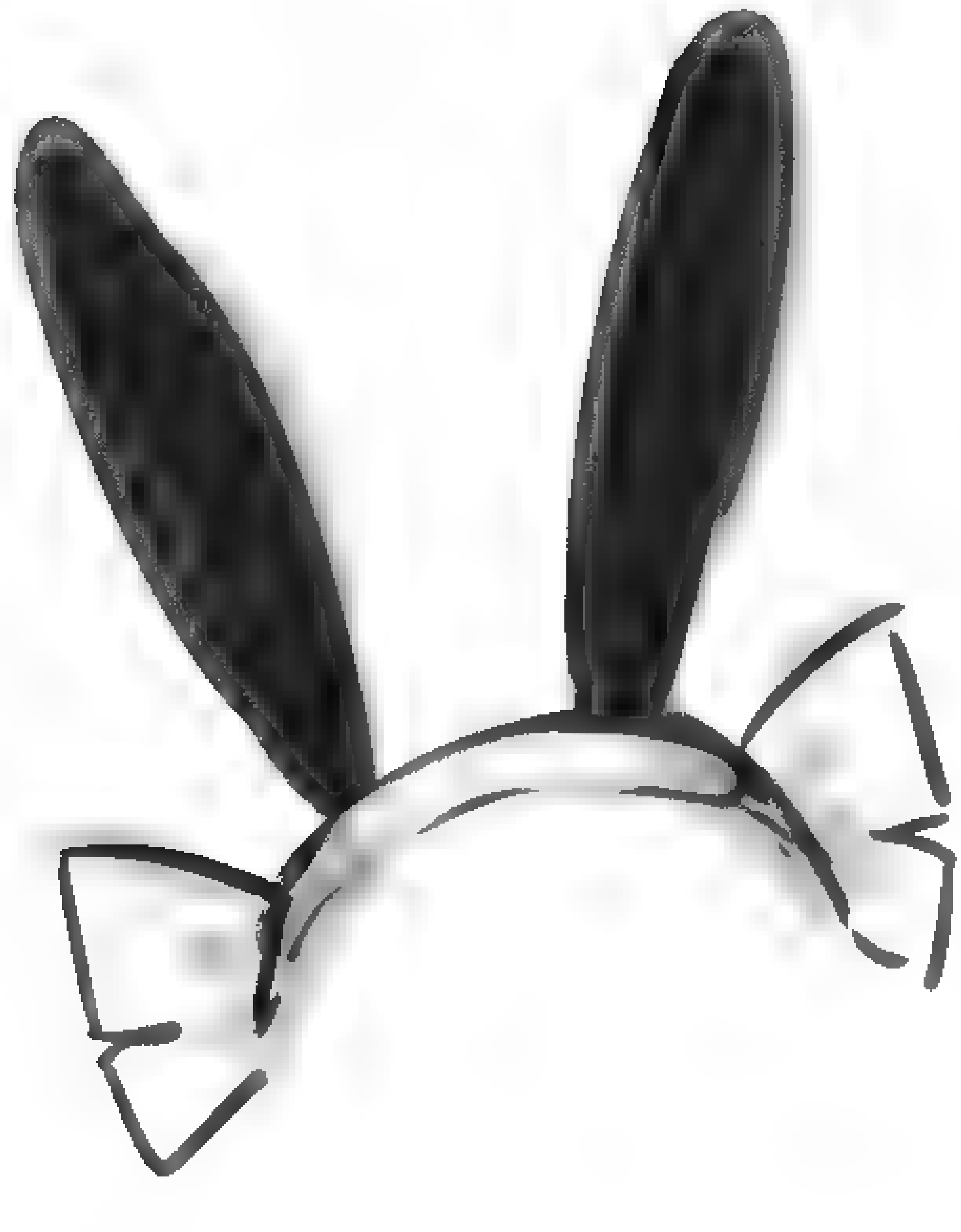
3!

4!

BOOM

CHECK OUT MY SONG!

THANK YOU!



BEFORE HARUHI'S BAND PERFORMED.

Epilogue 49 >> Thanks

WHY NOT? WE'VE GOT TIME, SO LET'S TAKE A LOOK.

OKAY.

IN WE GO...

"HUNDRED FAVORITE BOOKS," HUH?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THE LITERA CLUB'S HUNDR FAVORI BOOKS

SERIOUSLY! LOOK AT THIS, THERE'S A STEW LIGHT NOVEL OUT FROM *SNEAKER BUNKO.*

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS DISPLAY? IT'S NOTHING BUT STEW!

HA-HA-HA, WHAT IS THIS?

趣味:おでんの食

BOOK: EVERYTHING STEW

SUDDENLY A STRANGE ASSASSIN TARGETS BOWL-KUN, AND HE'S PLUNGED INTO THE CONFLICT SURROUNDING HIS BLOOD-LINE!

...AND A GIRL NAMED EGG-CHAN...

THE TOUCHING LOVE STORY OF BOWL-KUN, THE SMARTEST BOY IN SCHOOL ...

WOW, THIS "STRANGE STEW" RECIPE BOOK LOOKS GREAT. THIS ONE'S GOT APPLES IN IT!

SHOOOP

HA-HA-HA, NOW I'M KINDA INTER-ESTED!

SO YOU'RE INTER-ESTED IN STEW?

ARE YOU TWO A COUPLE? YOU SHOULD TRY THIS STEW COMPAT-IBILITY TEST!

STEW COMP

HEH-HEH, YOU NEEDN'T BE SO FORMAL. STEW IS A VERY APPROACHABLE DISH, AFTER ALL.

EEK! NO! YES! NO! S-STEW IS A VERY DEEP AND COMPLEX SUBJECT, OF COURSE!

E-EXCUSE US!

THE INTENSITY OF SOMEONE WHO'S TOTALLY SERIOUS

FROM YOUR FAVORITE STEW INGREDIENTS, YOU'LL LEARN WHICH YOU SHOULD EAT FIRST AND WHAT SEASONINGS TO USE. FROM THE WAY TO SIMMER YOUR DAIKON TO THE DEGREE OF AFFECTION YOU CAN EXPECT, THE VARIOUS DATA POINTS ARE PLOTTED WITH A HIGH DEGREE OF CORRELATION BETWEEN...

WHOK

WITH THAT KIND OF INTENSITY, EVEN I WOULD HEAD FOR THE HILLS!

FLINCH

HMPH. LEADING ME ON LIKE THAT...

WELL, THAT'S JUST RUDE... I MEAN...

POP

RYOUKO, YOU GET CRAZY WHENEVER STEW OR YUKI ARE INVOLVED.

...I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM SOMEONE WEARING SOMETHING SO EMBARRASSING!

I'M PRETTY SURE I JUST GAVE YOU MY FIRST IMPRES-SION...

...WAIT.

OH, THIS? WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S MY STAGE OUTFIT!

WAIT JUST A SECOND. YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING OUT IN PUBLIC WEARING THAT.

THAT'S RIGHT. SO?

OH, SO HERE IT'S LIKE...

NO WORRIES! SEE, THERE'S A SHEER...

I MEAN, WHAT IF IT... SLIPS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I WONDER IF IT'LL BE OKAY...

UH, YEAH.

THAT'S WHY I CAME TO GET YOU.

*HARUHI

AREN'T YOU GOING ON SOON?

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

みょん みょん BEND BEND

I KNOW THAT.

WHEN THE TIME CAME, I WAS GOING TO CLOSE THE DISPLAY AND HEAD OVER.

*HARUHI

WHOA!

I'M NOT A KID, YOU KNOW.

WHAT?

YOU KNOW.

JUST.

THANKS.

OH, THAT.

AND, LIKE, BORROWING INSTRUMENTS FROM THE POP MUSIC CLUB.

FOR GETTING THE BAND ON THE ROSTER.

...? FOR WHAT?

W-WELL, ANYWAY, IT WAS A BIG HELP, SO I'M SAYING THANKS!

URK!

I FIGURED IF I DIDN'T, YOU'D WIND UP RAIDING THE MUSIC CLUB ANY-WAY, SO...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HELPING OUT A FRIEND?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, MISS BUNNY EARS.

YOU'RE THE BUNNY AT THE MOMENT.

HMPH!

OH? Y-YOU THINK SO?

I THINK YOU'D LOOK GOOD IN BLUE.

ASAKURA-SAN HAS NO INTEREST IN SUCH EM-BARRASSING CLOTHING!

WHA...!? NO, NEVER!

IT'S ACTUALLY REALLY NICE... WANNA TRY IT ON, RYOUKO?

BY THE WAY...THAT LEOTARD IS REALLY FORM-FITTING... ISN'T IT UNCOMFORT-ABLE?

THE NEXT VOLUME IS
THE CHRISTMAS ARC!

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF NAGATO
YUKI-CHAN
6

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